IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 7, 13, 19, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 46, 51, 52, 57, 58, 63, 64, 69, 75, 81, and 87 as follows:

(Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
 receiving information over a communications network;

retrieving customizable validation rules from a <u>hereditary</u> rules library stored in a memory device; and

determining computer data validity by applying the retrieved customizable validation rules to the information.

- (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising highlighting information determined to be invalid by the customizable validation rules.
- (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the customizable validation rules are provided to a client.
- (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the customizable validation rules are provided to a server.
- (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the customizable validation rules are imbedded into a web page.
- (Previously Amended)The method of claim 1, wherein the customizable validation rules are executable both on a client and server.
- (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:
 means for receiving information over a communications network;
 means for retrieving customizable validation rules from a hereditary rules
 library stored in a memory device; and

means for determining computer data validity by applying the customizable retrieved validation rules to the information.

- (Previously Amended) The system of claim 7, further comprising means for highlighting information determined to be invalid by the customizable validation rules.
- (Previously Amended) The system of claim 7, wherein the customizable validation rules are provided to a client.
- (Previously Amended) The system of claim 7, wherein the customizable validation rules are provided to a server.
- (Previously Amended) The system of claim 7, wherein the customizable validation rules are imbedded into a web page.
- (Previously Amended) The system of claim 7, wherein the customizable validation rules are executable both on a client and server.
- 13. (Currently Amended) Computer executable software code stored on a computer readable medium, the code, comprising:

code for receiving information over a communications network;

code for retrieving customizable validation rules from a hereditary rules library stored in a memory device; and

code for determining computer data validity by applying the retrieved customizable validation rules to the information.

- (Previously Amended) The medium of claim 13, further comprising code for highlighting information determined to be invalid by the customizable validation rules.
- (Previously Amended) The medium of claim 13, wherein the customizable validation rules are provided to a client.
 - 16. (Previously Amended) The medium of claim 13, wherein the customizable

validation rules are provided to a server.

- (Previously Amended) The medium of claim 13, wherein the customizable validation rules are imbedded into a web page.
- (Previously Amended) The medium of claim 13, wherein the customizable validation rules are executable both on a client and server.
 - (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:
 a memory device having at least one region for storing executable program code;

and

a processor, disposed in communication with the memory device, for executing the program code stored in the memory device, wherein the program code, further comprising:

code to receive information over a communications network;

code to retrieve customizable validation rules from a <u>hereditary</u> rules library stored in a memory device;

code to determine computer data validity by applying the retrieved customizable validation rules to the information

- (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 19, further comprising code to highlight information determined to be invalid by the customizable validation rules.
- (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the customizable validation rules are provided to a client.
- (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the customizable validation rules are provided to a server.
- (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the customizable validation rules are imbedded into a web page.

- (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the customizable validation rules are executable both on a client and server.
 - (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
 identifying data types requiring validation; and
- providing customizable validation rules stored in a memory device for the associated data types from a $\underline{\text{hereditary}}$ rules library.
- (Previously Amended) The method of claim 25, wherein the customizable validation rules are provided to a client.
- (Previously Amended) The method of claim 25, wherein the customizable validation rules are provided to a server.
- (Previously Amended) The method of claim 25, wherein the customizable validation rules are imbedded into a web page.
- (Previously Amended) The method of claim 25, wherein the customizable validation rules are executable both on a client and server.
 - (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:
 means for identifying data types requiring validation; and
- means for providing customizable validation rules stored in a memory device for the associated data types from a <u>hereditary</u> rules library.
- (Previously Amended) The system of claim 30, wherein the customizable validation rules are provided to a client.
- (Previously Amended) The system of claim 30, wherein the customizable validation rules are provided to a server.
- (Previously Amended) The system of claim 30, wherein the customizable validation rules are imbedded into a web page.

- (Previously Amended) The system of claim 30, wherein the customizable validation rules are executable both on a client and server.
- 35. (Currently Amended) Computer executable software code stored on a computer readable medium, the code, comprising:

code for identifying data types requiring validation; and

code for providing customizable validation rules stored in a memory device for the associated data types from a <u>hereditary</u> rules library.

- (Previously Amended) The medium of claim 35, wherein the customizable validation rules are provided to a client.
- (Previously Amended) The medium of claim 35, wherein the customizable validation rules are provided to a server.
- (Previously Amended) The medium of claim 35, wherein the customizable validation rules are imbedded into a web page.
- (Previously Amended) The medium of claim 35, wherein the customizable validation rules are executable both on a client and server.
 - (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:
 a memory device having at least one region for storing executable program code;

and

a processor, disposed in communication with the memory device, for executing the program code stored in the memory device, wherein the program code, further comprising:

code to identify data types requiring validation:

code to provide customizable validation rules stored in a memory device for the associated data types from a <u>hereditary</u> rules library.

- (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the customizable validation rules are provided to a client.
- (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the customizable validation rules are provided to a server.
- (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the customizable validation rules are imbedded into a web page.
- (Previously amended) The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the customizable validation rules are executable both on a client and server.
- 45. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising: providing a <u>hereditary</u> rules library and having an initial parent rule stored in a memory device; and

building customizable validation rules by subclassing members of a <u>hereditary</u> rules library class hierarchy.

- (Currently Amended) The method of claim 45, further comprising storing subclassed customizable validation rules in the <u>hereditary</u> rules library.
- (Previously Amended) The method of claim 45, wherein the subclassed customizable validation rules inherit validation logic from a parent rule.
- (Previously Amended) The method of claim 45, wherein the customizable validation rules are associated with data types.
- (Previously Amended) The method of claim 45, wherein the customizable validation rules are imbedded into a web page.
- (Previously Amended) The method of claim 45, wherein the customizable validation rules are executable both on a client and server.
 - 51. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

means for providing a <u>hereditary</u> rules library and having an initial parent rule stored in a memory device; and

means for building customizable validation rules by subclassing members of a hereditary rules library class hierarchy.

- (Currently Amended) The system of claim 51, further comprising means for storing subclassed customizable validation rules in the <u>hereditary</u> rules library.
- (Previously Amended) The method of claim 51, wherein the subclassed customizable validation rules inherit validation logic from a parent rule.
- (Previously Amended) The system of claim 51, wherein the customizable validation rules are associated with data types.
- (Previously Amended) The system of claim 51, wherein the customizable validation rules are imbedded into a web page.
- (Previously Amended) The system of claim 51, wherein the customizable validation rules are executable both on a client and server.
- 57. (Currently Amended) Computer executable software code stored on a computer readable medium, the code, comprising:
- code for providing a <u>hereditary</u> rules library and having an initial parent rule stored in a memory device; and

code for building customizable validation rules by subclassing members of a hereditary rules library class hierarchy.

- 58. (Currently Amended) The medium of claim 57, further comprising code for storing subclassed customizable validation rules in the hereditary rules library.
- (Previously Amended) The method of claim 57, wherein the subclassed customizable validation rules inherit validation logic from a parent rule.

- (Previously Amended) The medium of claim 57, wherein the customizable validation rules are associated with data types.
- (Previously Amended) The medium of claim 57, wherein the customizable validation rules are imbedded into a web page.
- (Previously Amended) The medium of claim 57, wherein the customizable validation rules are executable both on a client and server.
 - 63. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

 a memory device having at least one region for storing executable program code;

and

a processor, disposed in communication with the memory device, for executing the program code stored in the memory device, wherein the program code, further comprising:

code to provide a <u>hereditary</u> rules library and having an initial parent rule stored in a memory device;

 $code\ to\ build\ customizable\ validation\ rules\ by\ subclassing\ members\ of\ a$ $\underline{hereditary}\ rules\ library\ class\ hierarchy.$

- (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 63, further comprising code to store subclassed customizable validation rules in the <u>hereditary</u> rules library.
- (Previously Amended) The method of claim 63, wherein the subclassed customizable validation rules inherit validation logic from a parent rule.
- (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 63, wherein the customizable validation rules are associated with data types.
- (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 63, wherein the customizable validation rules are imbedded into a web page.
 - 68. (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 63, wherein the customizable

validation rules are executable both on a client and server.

(Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
 marking data types for associated customizable validation rules from a <u>hereditary</u>
 rules library stored in a memory device; and

providing validation marked data types.

- (Previously Amended) The method of claim 69, further comprising building forms
 with the customizable validation rules associated with marked data types.
- (Previously Amended) The method of claim 69, further comprising storing forms with the customizable validation rules associated with marked data types.
- (Previously Amended) The method of claim 69, further comprising providing forms
 with the customizable validation rules associated with marked data types over a communications network.
- (Previously Amended) The method of claim 69, wherein the customizable validation rules are imbedded into a web page.
- (Previously Amended) The method of claim 69, wherein the customizable validation rules are executable both on a client and server.
- 75. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising: means for marking data types for associated customizable validation rules from a hereditary rules library stored in a memory device; and

means for providing validation marked data types.

- (Previously Amended) The system of claim 75, further comprising means for building forms with customizable validation rules associated with the marked data types.
- (Previously Amended) The system of claim 75, further comprising means for storing forms with customizable validation rules associated with the marked data types.
 - 78. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 76, further comprising means for

providing forms with customizable validation rules associated with the marked data types over a communications network.

- (Previously Amended) The system of claim 75, wherein the customizable validation rules are imbedded into a web page.
- (Previously Amended) The system of claim 75, wherein the customizable validation rules are executable both on a client and server.
- 81. (Currently Amended) Computer executable software code stored on a computer readable medium, the code, comprising:

code for marking data types for associated customizable validation rules from a <u>hereditary</u> rules library stored in a memory device; and

code for providing validation marked data types.

- (Previously Amended) The medium of claim 81, further comprising code for building forms with customizable validation rules associated with the marked data types.
- (Previously Amended) The medium of claim 81, further comprising code for storing forms with customizable validation rules associated with the marked data types.
- 84. (Previously Amended) The medium of claim 82, further comprising code for providing forms with customizable validation rules associated with the marked data types over a communications network.
- (Previously Amended) The medium of claim 81, wherein the customizable validation rules are imbedded into a web page.
- (Previously Amended) The medium of claim 81, wherein the customizable validation rules are executable both on a client and server.
 - (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:
 a memory device having at least one region for storing executable program code:

and

a processor, disposed in communication with the memory device, for executing the program code stored in the memory device, wherein the program code, further comprising:

code to mark data types for associated customizable validation rules from a hereditary rules library stored in a memory device;

code to provide validation marked data types.

- 88. (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 87, further comprising code to build forms with the customizable validation rules associated with the marked data types.
- (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 87, further comprising code to store forms with the customizable validation rules associated with the marked data types.
- (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 88, further comprising code to
 provide forms with the customizable validation rules associated with the marked data types over a
 communications network.
- (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 87, wherein the customizable validation rules are imbedded into a web page.
- (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 87, wherein the customizable validation rules are executable both on a client and server.
 - (Original) A method, comprising:
 identifying browser capability;

choosing a validation deployment, wherein the validation deployment comprising:

determining if a browser supports regular expressions, and if so, providing validation rules to a client;

determining if the browser supports non regular expression language, and if so, providing non regular expression language information validation;

determining if the browser does not support non regular expression language, and if not, providing regex enabled validation on a server;

providing the browser with appropriate network location and validation rules; obtaining information from a user; and

validating information with appropriate validation rules stored in a memory device.

- (Previously Presented) The method of claim 93, wherein the validation rules are imbedded into a web page.
- (Previously Presented) The method of claim 93, wherein the validation rules are executable both on a client and server.
 - 96. (Original) A system, comprising:

means for identifying browser capability;

means for choosing a validation deployment, wherein the validation deployment comprising:

means for determining if a browser supports regular expressions, and if so, providing validation rules to a client;

means for determining if the browser supports non regular expression language, and if so, providing non regular expression language information validation;

means for determining if the browser does not support non regular expression language, and if not, providing regex enabled validation on a server; means for providing the browser with appropriate network location and validation rules:

means for obtaining information from a user; and

means for validating information with appropriate validation rules stored in a memory device.

- (Previously Presented) The system of claim 96, wherein the validation rules are imbedded into a web page.
- (Previously Presented) The system of claim 96, wherein the validation rules are executable both on a client and server.
- (Original) Computer executable software code stored on a computer readable medium, the code, comprising:

code for identifying browser capability;

code for choosing a validation deployment, wherein the validation deployment comprising:

code for determining if a browser supports regular expressions, and if so, providing validation rules to a client;

code for determining if the browser supports non regular expression language, and if so, providing non regular expression information validation;

code for determining if the browser does not support non regular expression language, and if not, providing regex enabled validation on a server;

code for providing the browser with appropriate network location and validation rules:

code for obtaining information from a user; and

code for validating information with appropriate validation rules stored

in a memory device.

100. (Previously Presented) The medium of claim 99, wherein the validation rules are imbedded into a web page.

101. (Previously Presented) The medium of claim 99, wherein the validation rules are executable both on a client and server.

> 102. (Original) An apparatus, the code, comprising: a memory device having at least one region for storing executable program code;

and

a processor, disposed in communication with the memory device, for executing the program code stored in the memory device, wherein the program code, further comprising:

code to identify browser capability;

code to choose a validation deployment, wherein the validation

deployment comprising:

code to determine if a browser supports regular expressions, and if so, provide

validation rules to a client:

code to determine if the browser supports non regular expression language,

and if so, provide non regular expression information validation;

code to determine if the browser does not support non regular expression

language, and if not, provide regex enabled validation on a server;

code to provide the browser with appropriate network location and validation rules;

code to obtain information from a user; and

code to validate information with appropriate validation rules stored in a memory device.

- 103. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 102, wherein the validation rules are imbedded into a web page.
- 104. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 102, wherein the validation rules are executable both on a client and server.